



Killisnoo Seiners

Important Dates

- 1942 - 1945 The Canadian constructed Oil Line (CANOL) provided fuel to both the ALSIB airfields and the ALCAN highway. Crude oil went from both the oil fields of Norman Wells in the Northwest Territories and from the port of Skagway in Southeast Alaska to a refinery at Whitehorse in the Yukon Territories. The refinery then pumped the fuel north and south to the airfield and highway depots.
- 1942 German Prisoners-of-War helped build a military installation at the head of Excursion Inlet. War exigencies curtailed the project in mid-stride. Little restriction of the POW was needed — the only attempted escapees returned in terror from the mosquitos, bears and "savage Indians". Reportedly, the U.S. Navy gathered shellfish from the Porpoise Islands at the mouth of Excursion Inlet for use in biological warfare. Shellfish from these islands supposedly contain the highest content of Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP) in the United States.
- 1944 Alaskan voters elected the first Native legislators since 1924 — Andrew Hope, Sitka and Frank Peratovich, Klawock.
- 1946 The Alaska Territorial Legislature passed the first human rights, anti-discrimination law in the United States since the Civil War. As with the voting rights and public school attendance of Native Alaskans, the law followed direct action and public acceptance.
- 1940 - 1950 Alaska's population increased by 77%.
- 1947 The Statehood bills for Alaska and Hawaii waxed and waned together in Congress.
- 1948 First aerial photo survey of Southeast Alaska flown by the U.S. Navy. The U.S. Forest Service used it to develop their timber sales.

*BOREAL INSTITUTE
LIBRARY*

TOO LATE FOR THE GOLD TOO EARLY FOR THE OIL 1942-1981

This Wonderful Land

The rainfall is amazing. It rains 24 hours a day and after the rainy season is over the snowy season begins. We do not mind that, however. Imagine a country where for a thousand miles—from Cook Inlet to Ketchikan—there is not, nor ever was, a dry spot large enough to set a weary ass on.

*—Lage Wernstedt, forester,
1908, Southeast Alaska.*

Southeast Alaska is a state of mind—madness in some, tenderness in others. The slick streets and frothing seas are beautiful... so long as you've got a warm home and a cold beer. Even though Alaska has the highest per capita income in the USA, many folks don't even have a warm beer to look forward to. Averages don't go to bed hungry. These records are the thoughts and feelings of Southeast—some hungry, some thirsty; some with an axe to grind and some with ground to break...timber contractors, ship-wrights, street singers, governors, fishers, miners, commissioners, saloon-keepers, mammalogists, and prospectors... Originally, we sent a tape to Folkways Records back in 1979—a tape patch-worked from Donald Duck cassettes in pirated production studios. Moses Asch rejected it, saying it wasn't folk music.

We wrote back and told him that the difference between what he wanted in a record and the master tape we sent him was the same as the difference between the United States and Alaska: "The songs that we sent on the original cassette that you did not consider "authentic" are all first generation songs about our hardship, love and experiences...your statement that you "bet those young punks never knew hardship" is bullshit, I assure you. These young people risk their lives in the forests and on the seas DAILY, some of them. Not everyone is a prospector in Alaska, contrary to popular opinion; boredom claims more bureaucrat lives than brown bear. Yes; much of our music is "polished"; all of us musicians perform to each other and often supplement our income with saloon shows. The "rougher" material is not "more authentic" than the "polished" material—it's all first generation music, by first generation people. "We are a New Country."

Native and Russian music have been around up here for over a century but the only "old" Anglo music lies in the Alaska Historical Library. One is to the tune of "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean." Some are sheet music of commemorative pieces commissioned in Pittsburgh, New York, and occasionally Juneau—tunes like the "Alaska Mazurka" and the "Lights of Thane Waltz". Some collections of folk poetry do exist; especially after the successive waves of gold rushes in 1880, 1898, 1903, etc. These poems might have been songs at one time, but their music is now missing. The children of the homesteaders, loggers, prospectors, fishers, farmers, clerks, and miners who settled Southeast Alaska at the turn of this century sing Hank Williams. The few original songs that these old-timers sing are songs they have written themselves—first generation songs by first generation settlers.

A culture is forming here. It is distinct from Mainstream America, distinct, even from Mainstream Alaska. Southeast is different. Our stories, our history and our music encourage this diverging and emerging culture. Give up your present ideas of what folk-music in Southeast should be. Southeast Alaska is not Harlan County and Billy Horner is not Woody Guthrie. Alaska and Southeast are new.

We have a record format we think you will like. It is a cultural history of Southeast Alaska in music and song and conversation spanning the Native migration from the Ice age to the problems of the pipeline and land ownership today. We swam through reports of the Territorial Governor on rum-running, the Socialist Party of Alaska's platforms supporting Eugene Debs, linguistic monographs on proto-Tlingit phonemes ...we visited priests, fisherwomen and sundry drunks with good yarns. We had to

1949

The Territorial Legislature instituted the first property and income taxes in Alaska. Until this time airlines, trucking companies, the oil industry, steamship companies, newspapers and logging operations paid no tax. The companies contested these taxes in court.

Juneau put up parking meters.

1952

Gordy Knauss opened the Red Dog Saloon in Juneau.

1945

The Cold War and the Korean War initiated an expense of over \$1 billion in the Territory for missile, missile warning, and surveillance systems. The growing view that ground warfare was obsolete lead to the financing of:

1. Nike-Hercules missile sites aimed towards the Soviet Union over the North Pole, as well as Distant Early Warning (DEW) radar sites.

2. White Alice communications network both linked these sites and joined them "rearward" to the State-side headquarters.

Microwave stations and the Alaska Communications System composed a part of the rearward communications through Southeast Alaska — microwave to Annette Island and ACS on to Seattle.

1953

The Corps of Engineers built the Alaska-Canada Gas-Oil (ALCANGO) pipeline — an 8" pipeline carried fuel to Fairbanks from tankers at the depot in Haines. It cost \$40 million to build and saved \$3.5 million in trucking costs per year.

1953

President Eisenhower declared Alaskan fisheries a disaster area.

1954

The Statehood Bill still hung-up in Congress due to party politics. Southern Democrats and Republicans blocked a democratic Alaska from entering the Union. Two alternatives suggested separate statehood for Southeast Alaska or commonwealth status for the whole Territory. The statehood of Southeast hearkened back to the days of the Klondike, but the commonwealth concept came about only in 1952 as regarding Puerto Rico. Neither idea got anywhere.

1955

Alaskan voters and the Territorial Legislature approved the meeting of a Statehood Convention and elected delegates.

The Ketchikan Pulp Mill began operation. Its operational base came from a 50-year contract guaranteeing 1.56 billion cubic feet of spruce and hemlock from Prince of Wales and Kuiu Islands. The Tlingit/Haida land claims still lay in the U.S. Court of Claims. To allow this sale of timber rights on contested land to proceed, Congress passed the Tongass Timber Act of 1947 — placing the sale money in an escrow account until the court settled the land claims.

1956

In a Territorial Ballot Alaska voters elected:

yes — Statehood and the drafted constitution
yes — Tennessee Plan for Statehood
no — Fish traps

The Tennessee Plan was the method Tennessee used to become a state in 1796 — They wrote their own constitution, elected their own congressional representatives, went to Congress, and took their seats. They didn't wait.

continually remind ourselves that this was a record not a Ph.D. thesis. It was inspirational discovering hushed up history: we found, for instance, that the revered discoverer of the Treadwell gold near Juneau also ran an opium smuggling racket out of Taku Inlet and Karta Bay. History is what you make it. So are songs. Maybe these notes will inspire some new songs. Neither the songs nor the notes in this collection are the definitive edition, just a gathering of what was around.

We hope to put together a folk history of Southeast Alaska in the near future, a history, in the words of the people living it, you and we. If anyone has old photos, diaries, songs, ideas, criticisms, words of encouragement, etc. please send them along to us:

Archipelago
Box 748
Douglas, Alaska 99824

For now, just listen to the records and hear Southeast.

John Ingalls & Barry Roderick

Southeast Alaska is about the size of Maine:

35,527 sq. miles

or

22,737,280 acres

9,000 miles of shoreline.

400 miles long x 120 miles wide.

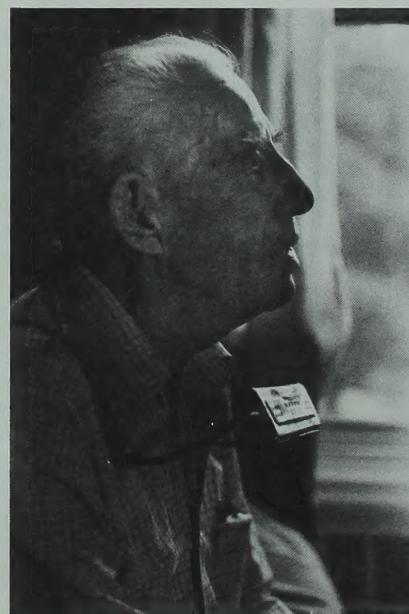
44% mainland

30% islands

26% water

Annual precipitation 40-220 inches

Photo by Nancy Rainer



Dedicated to "Lonesome Pete," Arnt Pederson

If you walk down the hall at the Pioneers Home in Sitka and find the name "Lonesome" Pete on one of the doors, don't be alarmed. Behind this door is a charming old man with a great sense of humor. "Lonesome" came from his homeland in Norway with his guitar years ago. A true pioneer, he has done everything from running a boatyard to prospecting to being the mayor of Meyers Chuck.

1957

Two Alaskan elected senators and one representative arrived in Washington D.C. and asked for seats in Congress (The method used by Tennessee in 1796 to get admitted to the Union). Congress refused. The Alaskan Congressional Delegation then began lobbying.

1958

Congress passed the Alaska Statehood Act.

An earthquake dislodged 90 million tons of rock cliff at the head of Lituya Bay, generating a splash wave 1720 feet high. A 100 foot wave — from the shore — swept three fishing vessels out to sea; one sank, one disappeared totally, and one still fishes salmon in Southeast.

1959

The Alaska Lumber and Pulp mill began operation in Sitka, subsequent to their two subsidiary lumber/chipping operations in Wrangell. Their base of operations came from another 50-year contract with the U.S. Forest Service guaranteeing them 5.25 billion board feet of spruce and hemlock from Baranof and Chichagof Islands.

The U.S. Court of Claims in Washington D.C. decided in favor of the Tlingit/Haida land claims. However, the exact nature and amount of the settlement waited another nine years; the debate lay in whether to compensate the Natives at the rates when the forest reserves began (pre-1925) or at the time of the timber sales (1950's). In 1968 the Tlingit/Haida's received \$7.5 million for compensation at the pre-1925 rates.

President Eisenhower's signature on the Alaska Statehood Act made Alaska the 49th State. Federal appropriations ran Alaska during territorial days, along with sporadic local revenues. As a "state" Alaska now had to foot its own bill, pay its own way. Except for minimal taxes and an oil strike on the Kenai Moose Range, Alaska had no visible means of support. To help the new state, the federal government gave Alaska:

1. 104 million acres of the land
2. \$28.5 million
3. 90% of oil/gas/mineral revenues and taxes on federal land.

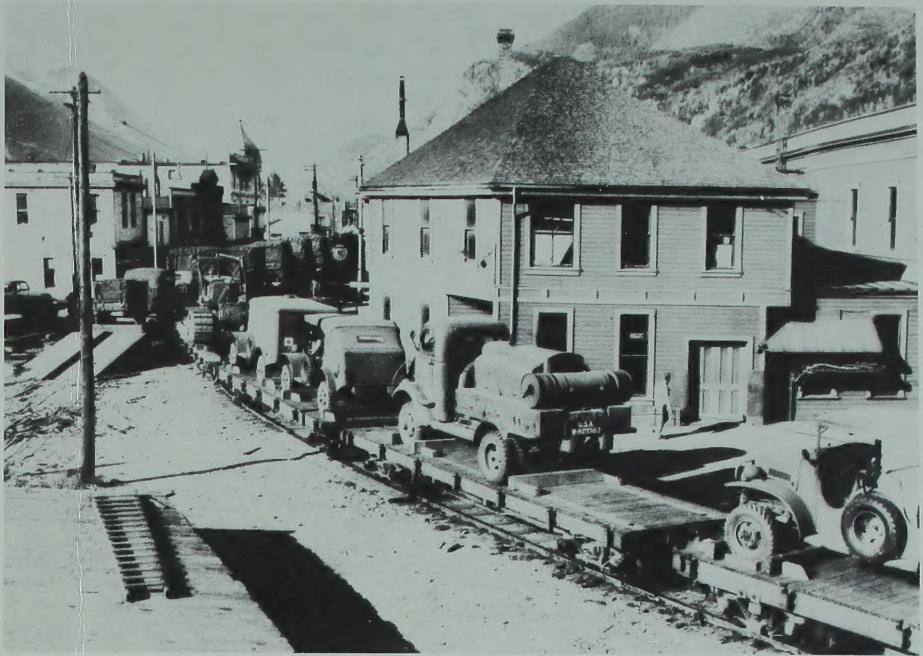
1963

The Legislature started the Alaska Marine Highway connecting the major communities of Southeast with each other and with the Outside highway systems at Haines, Alaska — Prince Rupert, British Columbia — Seattle, Washington. Four ferry/ships connected seven Southeast towns.

1964

Senator Ernest Gruening of Alaska valiantly protested America's involvement in Southeast Asia. Only Gruening and Morse voted against the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution in the U.S. Senate.

Congress passed the Wilderness Bill, which provided for the federal reservation of lands for wildlife refuges, scenic rivers, etc.



Skagway During Wartime, 1942

Courtesy of Alaska State Historical Library, US Army Signal Corps

WESTERN LANDS, FEDERAL RESERVES AND STATEHOOD

When the 13 original colonies joined in confederation they each brought their own land with them into the union. However, as the United States of America acquired the areas of Louisiana in 1803 and Oregon in 1844, a system of admitting these western "territories" as "states" arose. The newly acquired land would become a "territory". As the territory developed and Americans populated it, the territory would be broken up into states and be admitted to the Union as each section attained an arbitrary level of "civilization". A certain percentage of each territory's land would be retained in the possession of the federal government as payment for the trouble of acquisition and administration.

By this same method The United States purchased Russian America in 1867 and Alaska came under the following jurisdictions:

- 1867-1877 U.S. Army administration
1877-1879 U.S. Treasury administration enforced by the Revenue Cutter Service.
1879-1884 U.S. Navy administration
1884-1912 Federal Civil Administration governed by 12 federal agents
1912-1959 Self governing territory with federal veto
1959- Statehood

STATEHOOD

The Alaska delegate introduced the first Statehood Bill in 1915. Vested interests opposed the Statehood Movement. Canneries and steamship companies paid no taxes and gave only lip service to federal policies created 4000 miles away in Washington, D.C. As late as the 1950's, various arguments against statehood were raised: Alaska had a small population that would lead to disproportionate representation in the U.S. Senate; It's income was too small to support the new state; It was not connected to the continental U.S.A. and would create problems of communication and transportation, setting a dubious precedent for other U.S. possessions like Guam and Okinawa; It did not have enough industry to support and provide for the population; It was too liberal, especially the block of voters associated with the International Longshoreman's and Warehouseman's Union; Being highly strategic in the Cold War the loss of strong federal control would be dangerous to national security; The natives held unsettled land claims and they made up too large a proportion of the population.

1966

Native organizations throughout Alaska gathered to form the Alaska Federation of Natives. The Central Council of the Tlingit/Haida joined. The Tlingit and Haida still awaited settlement from the 1959 court decision. The AFN began their demands for a land claims settlement for all Alaskan Natives.

Three routes for action existed:

1. Courts
2. Congress
3. Alaska State Legislature

Court procedure had taken the Tlingit and Haida over 30 years . . . too long. The State of Alaska claimed it was a federal problem. The Alaskan Natives went to Washington, D.C. The Secretary of Interior froze all federal lands in Alaska until a settlement could be reached with the Natives; all conveyance and sale of federal land to the State of Alaska, corporations, and individuals halted.

1967

The first go-go girl arrived in Juneau.

1968

The U.S. Forest Service auctioned off the largest timber sale in their history. 8.75 billion board feet sold to U.S. Plywood— Champion International Papers, Inc. Clear-cutting of the Tongass National Forest on Admiralty Island and near Yakutat would provide the spruce and hemlock for a pulp mill on Berners Bay, just north of Juneau. The pulp would go to a Japanese paper company. The Sierra Club and the Sitka Conservation Society protested the timber sale in court in 1970 as a violation of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and of the U.S. Department of the Interior's administrative procedure. After six years of litigation. U.S. Plywood—Champion International Papers, Inc. withdrew from the contract.

Electrical needs of this mill led to the miscalculation of the Snettisham Hydro-electric Project's needed out-put, which began in 1973.

The Tlingit and Haida finally received settlement from the 1959 court decision. They got \$7.5 million as compensation for lands and timber taken from them and placed in federal reserves. However, the settlement used land and timber values at the time of withdrawal — 1891, 1902, 1908, and 1925. . .

Major oil deposits discovered near Prudhoe Bay on the North Slope.

1969

The State of Alaska received \$900 million from sealed bids for oil leases by competing oil companies. Alaska auctioned these oil leases off from lands selected from the federal domain (part of their 104 million acre Statehood allotment) before the 1966 land freeze.

A consortium of oil companies conceived the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) — 800 miles of 48" diameter stainless steel pipe running from Prudhoe Bay on the North Slope . . . south to the Port of Valdez on Prince William Sound.

Congress passed the National Environmental Policy Act, which provided for Environmental Impact Statements for projects on federal land.

It took years to explode the fallacy of these and other objections. The problem lay not in these "problems" but in national politics. Republicans and Southern Democrats did not favor admitting a state with such liberal Democratic leanings. The Republicans controlled the House of Representatives and the Republican president Eisenhower balked at Alaskan Statehood. But Alaskans approved statehood 40,452 to 8,010 in 1958. Partisan politics fell apart under such overwhelming opposition, but not without bitterness:

Statehood was achieved—almost. President Eisenhower still had to sign the measure. He did so on July 7, 1958. But instead of signing the admission bill in public, as was customary, the Chief Executive decided to do so privately. This action was severely criticized by Senator James E. Murray, Democrat of Montana, who complained to Ernest Gruening:

Rather than to have had pictures taken in the presence of yourself and all those other fine Democrats who played such instrumental roles in bringing about the admission of the 49th State into the Union, he chose to handle this momentous matter as though he were merely signing a private bill for the relief of Mr. "X" Lord knows where he's going to find two Republicans who were sufficiently important in bringing about statehood for Alaska to whom to present the two pens he used in the signing.⁵³

Murray, James, in *An Interpretive History of Alaskan Statehood*
by Claus-M. Naske, Alaska Northwest Publishing Co., Anchorage,
1973

According to the Statehood Act, Alaska could select 104.5 million acres in the Territory for their new state's land. The new State had 25 years to make this selection. That meant choosing an area slightly larger than the State of Connecticut every year for 25 years. The choosing went slowly. At first the land was a liability. For every township that the State selected they lost highway funds for that area and were assessed fire protection by the federal government; each township that the State selected cost them \$15,000. Until oil became apparent, there was no reason for Alaska to choose their Statehood Allotment. The total area of Alaska is about 375 million acres. The State received about 1/4 of the total. 40 million acres were given to the native population in return for land taken from them and the federal government kept the remaining 230,000,000 acres. The federal government has possession of nearly 2/3 of Alaskan land. The breakdown of land seems straightforward but the diverse geography makes implementation of the plan a nightmare.

SOUTHEAST NAMES

Vancouver distributed all the names of English nobility and of his friends among a thousand islands, promontories, etc. that he sighted; finally, not knowing how to name the rest, he started naming them after the foreign envoys stationed in London at that time.

Lisianski, circa. 1808

TLINGIT NAMES FOR PROPOSED NATIONAL MONUMENTS & WILDLIFE PRESERVES IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA

American Name	Tlingit Name
Russell Fiord	Was'ítá
Endicott Arm	Jílkáát
Admiralty Island	Xootsnoowú (Bear Fort)
Tracy Arm—Ford's Terror	S'aawdáan
Tebenoff Bay	Koooyú
South Etolin Island	?
Petersburg Creek	Waas'héeni
Stikine River	Shtax'héen
Karta Bay	Kasa.aan (Pretty Bay)
Nutkwa	Nut'ká
Coronation Island	Deikí noow (Far outside fort)
Misty Fiord	Náás (Name for Portland inlet area)
Southern Baranof Island	Shee sáank (South outside coast) Shee Yar'ák (South inside coast)
Northern West End Baranof Island	Shee Káak
Northern East End Baranof Island	Shee t'éik
Portage Bay—Petersburg	Naaxdik'
West Chichagof Island	X áas yá

1970	Natives and conservationists took the TAPS to U.S. District Court in Washington D.C., as a violation of the 1920 Mineral Leasing Act and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. The Court issued an injunction against TAPS.	1976	The federal government leased exploration and exploitation rights to major oil companies on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) in the Gulf of Alaska. The State of Alaska took the federal government to court because of adverse social, environmental, and fisheries impact.
1969 - 1971	With everyone anxious to unfreeze the lands and the pipeline in order to get the bucks flowing, the oil companies and the Nixon administration supported the Alaska Native land claims.		Congress passed the Fisheries Conservation Act which included the 200 mile limit. However, the act permitted foreign vessels within the 200 mile limit until the American fishing industry developed.
	Congress passed the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. It provided for:		The Alaska Permanent Fund was created by a constitutional amendment. A minimum of 25% of Alaskan oil, gas and mineral revenues go into this fund. The Alaska Permanent Fund is permanent; the money is only for income producing investments. The Fund's projected balance by the year 1981 is \$1.8 billion — making it the world's largest development bank. Dividends from this bank then go into the General Fund (the state budget), back to the people of Alaska, or into special projects. In 1980 the Legislature provided for each resident to get \$50 for every year in Alaska — up to 25 years, with provisions. This was the Permanent Fund Dividend. The Dividend was challenged in court in 1980 by late-comers who didn't qualify for a piece of the action.
	1. 40 million acres of land in outright ownership. 2. \$462.5 million in cash from the U.S. Treasury. 3. \$500 million from state and federal mineral revenues.	1977	Legislature attempted to decriminalize cocaine.
	One-ninth of Alaska and \$1 billion went to the Alaskan Natives as restitution and compensation for lands taken from them by the federal government. The land and money is administered through 12 regional and 208 village corporations organized under American corporate structure and Alaskan Native traditions. In Southeast, 11 village corporations work with the regional corporation — Sealaska, Inc.		The U.S. Coast Guard moved their Southeast base from Annette Island to Sitka for closer proximity to the action-packed Gulf of Alaska: home of the 200 mile limit, the OCS oil leases, the oil tanker traffic, earthquakes, and tidal waves.
	Section 17(d)(2) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act allowed federal withdrawals of an additional 120 million acres for national parks, national forests, wildlife refuges, and wild and scenic river systems.	1980	Voters approved the creation of a Statehood Review Commission to reconsider Statehood and its alternatives.
	The Radio Corporation of America (RCA) purchased the Alaska Communications System for \$31.5 million from the U.S. Air Force. A monopoly.		Congress passed the d-2 Bill.
1972	The Alaska Legislature passed the Equal Rights Amendment.		Legal Drugs
	The first use of helium balloon logging in Alaska; Clear Creek Logging Company on Kupreanof Island.		The Alaska legislature legalized marijuana in 1975. Some political wizards concluded it to be self-defense.
1973	The Snettisham Power Project began providing Juneau with only 47,000 KW. Full potential output was delayed because the Berners Bay Pulp Mill and the Admiralty Island timber sale sat in litigation.		<i>The usual epigram is "I've got important friends in high places" in Juneau it's "I've got high friends in important places".</i> —Anubis, <i>Friend of the People</i> , 1978, Juneau.
	The Alaska Legislature passed the Limited Entry Law in an attempt to stabilize the declining salmon fishery. A point system limited the number of permits and the permits limited the number of fishers.		The attempt two years later to decriminalize cocaine by legislature was seen in the same light:
1974	Legislature passed the Alaska Private Non-Profit Hatchery Act — allowing private, non-profit corporations to set up aquaculture programs to aid the declining salmon fishery.		<i>The day they tried to decriminalize coke, there were more runny noses than crying eyes in the legislative halls.</i> —Anubis, <i>op cit.</i>
	Alaskans voted to move the Capitol from Juneau. In 1976 they voted to move it to Willow, northeast of Anchorage. However, voters also approved the FRANK (frustrated responsible Alaskans needing knowledge) Initiative in 1978, which gave voters final say on the cost of the Capitol Move in one lump sum; Alaskans became wary after the estimated \$900 million Trans-Alaska Pipeline ended up costing \$ 7.7 billion.		Harpoons, Dip-nets, and Alaska's Food Stamp Program
1975	Legislature legalized marijuana for use in your home.		<i>Thanks to a waiver in the Food Stamp Law for Alaska, some of the critters in our food chain have a bit more to worry about these days; and a lot of folks who would rather pick it, grow it, shoot it or catch it themselves can use food stamps just like Mo and Ethyl in Cleveland at the Supershop.... If you're eligible for food stamps you can now use them to buy gasoline and oil for outboard motors and snowmobiles, foul weather gear (a nice touch), hunting knives, harpoons, fishing gear, dip nets, and other types of equipment for subsistence hunting and fishing.</i>

TOO LATE FOR THE GOLD

Courtesy of Alaska State Historical Library



Yakutat Loggers

Side 1

Band 1 (5:05)

The Basket Bay Blowdown Blues (4:07)

Written by John Schnabel, Haines.

Arranged and sung by John Jamieson, Guitar, Juneau/Aurora Basin.

John Schnabel runs a logging/lumber operation in the Chilkat Valley. He wrote this song at the peak of his professional frustration and it shows a seldom sung concern — that of the logger/contractor. Jameo and Billy Horner moved his folk song into the realm of the blues one night with a little help from the Ranier Brewing Company.

I've got the Basket Bay Blowdown Blues.
The trees are broken in two.
The tower is shot,
The wood is full of rot
And the torredos have started to chew.

Chorus:
Oh, woe is me,
I wish to God I'd never bought a tree.
Oh, woe is me,
Oh, woe is me,
I wish to God I'd never bought a tree.

I've got the Basket Bay Blowdown Blues
'Cause the department sent me the news—
The show's been reappraised
And the stumpage has been raised;
Seems Uncle Sam is programmed not to lose.

Chorus.

I've got the Basket Bay Blowdown Blues—
The stumpage is 60 times 2,
The ranger is mad
'Cause the show looks so sad
And the liquor is into the crew.

Chorus.

I've got the Basket Bay Blowdown Blues—
I wish someone else was in my shoes
'Cause we can't build a dump,
Got to measure every stump,
And preservationists are giving us the screw.

Chorus.

John Jamieson

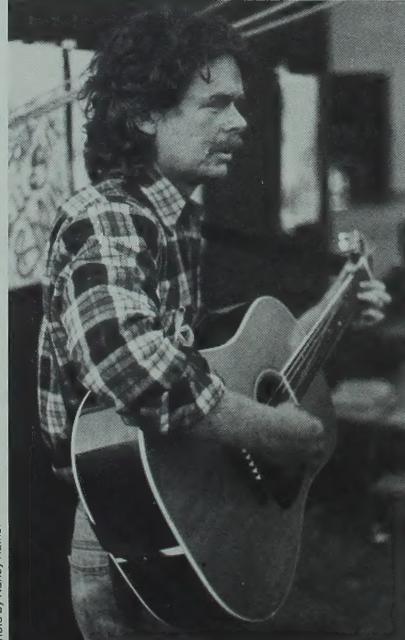


Photo by Nancy Rainier

Sometimes (0:57)

Katherine Smith, piano, Haines

Katherine developed her skills as a composer and pianist in Moose Valley, out at 27 Mile in Haines, when she was 6 years old. As a matter of fact, we hid a hind quarter of moose from the game warden in her piano bench one June day in 1974. A true Alaskan flavor. Sometimes.

Band 2 (2:19)

License Song (2:19)

Lonesome Pete, guitar/mouth harp, Sitka/Meyers Chuck.

Lonesome Pete is a rugged Norwegian who came to Alaska in Territorial days. He became a fisherman, boat-builder, professional singer and Mayor of Meyers Chuck until a prospecting accident landed him in the Sitka Pioneer's Home. This song expresses his frustration of trying to survive in a receding frontier and in a growing bureaucracy.

The License Song

To catch a king and coho you need a license,
Have you ever heard of such bunk?
Any day in the nearest future,
You need a license to come in skunked.

You need a license when you get married,
Why not another one when you part?
Any day in the nearest future
You'll need a license to . . . ah, don't be so smart.

Don't make a fuss when you buy that license,
To climb the hill to get your buck,
Any day in the nearest future
You'll need a license to . . . shoot a duck.

Don't make a fuss when you buy that license,
If you figure on to go and trap.
Pretty soon in the nearest future
You'll need a license to take a . . . nap.

At last you get tired of license,
And for that reason commit suicide;
The undertaker will ask this question:
"Did he have a suicide license before he died?"

Then you arrive at the gates of Heaven
Without your license—"Holy Smelt!"
Saint Peter, He'll say, "Ah, just keep going;
You don't need a license to go to Hell!"

Band 3 (7:03)

Billy Biggs Conversation (0:54)

Billy Biggs was born in Juneau during the Klondike Gold Rush. He went to work at the Hirst-Chichagof Mine during Prohibition where they never seemed at a loss for good times and good liquor brought in by rum runners from British Columbia.

Rum Runners of Southeast (3:12)

Written by Barry Roderick, Southeast.

Sung by John Osnes, guitar/fiddle, Sitka/Anchorage.

Smuggling is the second oldest occupation in Alaska since the Whites came. Alcohol was legalized only in 1899. During Prohibition, liquor came from Prince Rupert in British Columbia where it was legal. Today, many Alaskan communities are still dry, but the gaff rigged schooner has been replaced by the Cessna 180, and the second oldest profession still flourishes. This is the story of an earlier rum running expedition.

Alaskan Runners of Rum

Come all you hardy smugglers who run the rum thru snows,
Who brave the sea and dodge the law thru winter winds and blows;
And you who love hard driven', come listen to my song,
Of the run we made from Prince Rupert on the Nancy H. DeLong.

Oh, we hung the muslin on her and the wind began to hum,
10 brave Alaskan fishermen, chock-full of Hudson Bay Rum;
The mains'l and the fores'l lay un-reefed on that wild December Day,
As we passed by Dundas Island and slugged for Glacier Bay.

We slammed by Forester Island as the gale began to scream,
Our vessel took to dancin' in a way that was no dream;
A howler o'er the top rail, we steered No'thwest away,
But a Revenue Cutter hove in sight abaft of Cape Ommaney.

Storm along and drive along and punch her thru the ribs,
Don't mind them boardin' combers as our distance slowly gives;
'Just mind yer eye and watch that wheel', our skipper he did say,
'We gotta lose that god-damn cutter 'fore we head down Glacier Bay!'

We jibed her 'round Biorka and the skipper hauled the log,
'15 knots, b' Jesus!—ain't she just the gal to jog!'
The half-canned wheelsman shouted, as the cutter gained 2 furlongs,
'Just watch me tear the mains'l off the Nancy H. DeLong!'

The rum was passing merrily and the crew was feeling grand,
We kept just out of cannon shot as we rushed by Katlian;
The skipper, he kept sober, for he knew how things did stand,
And he made us reef the mains'l as we drove out Salisbury Sound.

We laced the wheelsman to his box as he steered us thru the gloom,
But a cannon shot blew his dormy whole across the straining boom,
It shredded the oil-skins off his back and you could hear him yell,
'Oh, cross the eyes of that gunner and sink 'im straight t' hell!'

Another shell flew past our bows and exploded in the surf,
It blew a hemlock clean to hell and 2 eagles from their perch;
A rattlin' round of twin Vickers guns tore our dory right in two
—It scattered the pieces across the deck and scared hell out of the crew.

Our skipper didn't care to make his wife a widow yet,
He spun the wheel towards Chichagof, with all our sails full set;
We passed close by the Geary Rocks and left some paint and plank
—But that cutter in tryin' to cut us off, forgot her keel and sank.

Billy Biggs Conversation (0:43)

Three for a Dollar Blues (1:18)

Paul Disdier, dobro, Douglas Island; with John Jamieson, guitar, Juneau/Aurora Basin.

Paul plays steel string guitar but says, "The only way I ever want to make a living is by painting". He occasionally gets under-bid on a contract, but never gets out-done on a job. He is called Renoir for more than his painting of sewage plants in Skaguay; he is a fine artist with canvas and oils. He composed this tune in Hoonah on a painting job for the school district. Jameo is the master of the squid schooner, "Cinnabar" and gives Paul an able hand on occasion with paint brush or A-string.

Band 4 (2:37)

Billy Biggs Conversation (0:41)

Annie Fair (1:56)

Bruce Horowitz, guitar, Juneau.

As a surveyor in the jungles of Ecuador and as an Alaska Legal Services attorney, Bruce keeps track of his experiences in song, which is no small task. He got evicted last year because his roommate insisted on playing bagpipes at 2 A.M. trying to conjure the plumbing into working. Nonetheless, Bruce keeps singing through it all.

We swang down from Cape Spencer and roared thru Icy Strait,
We found our waitin' trollermen with thirsts we could not slake;
In brailin' out our cargo of Jim Beam and Cutty Sark,
We sang and danced and drank a health to bad weather, wind and dark.

(Chant):

From Canada to Glacier Bay, twice 200 miles we sailed,
In just 4 days, my jolly crew, thru gunshots thick as hail;
The crew, they said: 't'was seamanship', the skipper: he kept dumb,
(Sing):

But the force that drove our vessel was the power of Hudson Bay Rummffff.

Photo by Kris Raught



Billy Biggs

Photo by Nancy Falner



Annie Fair

Bruce Horowitz

Go light my Annie Fair
And dance away the gloom.
Go light my Annie Fair,
stay light my Annie Fair.

I looked down at my hands
And think of touching you.
I looked down at my hands,
I looked down at my hands.

When I awoke today,
The sun was just arising.
I love you more than life.
I love you more than life.

And I tried to let you know,
But the words they came too slowly.
I tried to let you know.
I tried to let you know.

John Osnes



Photo by Richard Keller

Band 5 (6:32)

Tales of the Raven (0:54)

Written by John Ross.

Spoken by Shirley Walkush.

We recorded this monologue during a performance of the play, Tales of the Raven by John Ross in Douglas. The play is about an Indian family that is forced to give up its traditional way of life and move into the city.

Lament for the Eyak (5:38)

Anna Nelson Harry, Yakutat.

Anna Nelson Harry is one of the last native speakers of her language. This lament is the only song of the Eyak we know that was recorded. The difficulty of this linguistic field recording is more than offset by the intense feeling for a culture, a people and a way of life that has all but passed in a few decades.

"The reason for Anna's Lament is surely clear to you (Barry Roderick), for the general public the tragedy definitely needs some explanation (see history). Also, Anna's Lament—singing style is practically all that has been recorded of Eyak music. How much it has been influenced by Yakutat Tlingit I cannot say, probably a lot. I am afraid we shall never know what most Eyak music was like; however it is tragically appropriate that this lament is what we know."

Michael Krauss,
Alaska Native Language Center,
University of Alaska,
Fairbanks, Alaska

We appreciate Anna Nelson Harry's contribution to Alaska's music and her kind permission, obtained through Elaine Abraham, allowing us to share her song with people everywhere. Michael Krauss, director of the Alaska Native Language center at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, greatly helped us by producing the recording of 'Lament of the Eyak', as well as the transcription and translation.

TOO EARLY FOR THE OIL



The "Salty" in South Pass

Lament of the Eyak

*My poor aunt (akh aat).
I can't believe you're going to die.
How will I hear you?
I wish this, to go back to you there.
You are no more.
My child speaks to me that way.
I just break out crying:
All alone here I'll go around.
Like Ravens I'll live alone.
My aunts are dying out on me and alone I'll be living.
Why, I wonder, are these things happening to me?
My uncles (akh kaak has) also have all died out on me and I can't forget them.
After my uncles all died out, my aunts are dying out next.*

*I'm all alone.
Some children survive with me, on this earth.
Only I keep bursting into tears.
I think about where my aunts are.

She is my aunt and my last aunt is gone.

Where will I go next?
Where ever will I go next?
They are already all extinct.
They have been wiped out.
Maybe me, I wonder, maybe Our Father wants it this way for me,
That I shoud live alone.
I only pray for it and my spirits recover.
Around here, that's why this — church, I walk around.
I try to go there.
Alone, alone around here I walk around on the beach at low tide.
I just break into tears.
I sit down on a rock.
Only the Eyaks, the Eyaks, they are all dying off.

Just a very few at Eyak there.
They survived from Eyak (escaped the fate of Eyak),
But they too are becoming extinct.
Useless to go back there.
My uncles (akh senee has) too have all died out on me.
After my uncles all died out my aunts next fell, to die.
Yes, why is it I alone, just I alone have survived?
I survive.*

*ayanh si'aht.
dik'wakh qixtaleeq q'i'yisinh.
k'eet ikh k'uqu'dixt-ch'aap?
al wakh i'xlee, uut ich' q'e' iqe'xt-a'ee. (daakh q'aw d-) daqiihah sale'.
anh siyahsh wakh sit'l txin'dalee.
ahh ts'itwakh kiinkh sixa' sale' l daakh aw (sh-) q'aw:
da'atlaggaxuu yahh qu'xdoo.
ch'iilehyuga' dlaggaxuu qu'ggaliuxtaa.
siahtggyayuu sikha' laggada'aal daakh dlaggaxuu (s-) q'al qu'galiuxtaa.
aant alaa deileht shdal wakhyyuu ggaxleel?
sigaakggayuudik sikha' li'q' iinsdi'ahl daakh dik'uk'ah laxstahlgginuu.
ahnoo sigmaakggayuu sikha' lisd'i'ahlch'ah t'uhnuu,
si'ahtggyayuu sikha' (lagg-) q'e' laggada'aal.
daxuuu dlaggaxuu.
saqeeggyayuu sikha' atggaxlalaal, al anh'ach'a'.
chi'itwakh kiinkh sikha' a'leek'.
aw ulah yahh adiilhxla'yaakh daat ahnuu si'ahtggyayuu.
(si-)
si'ahht q'a'anh daakh anh ggal'ihtyaa si'ahht sikha' k'aadidh
sale'.
daachiidal q'e' qu'xdoo?
dadaachiidal g'ee qu'xdoo?
datlii dal'i q'ahnuu iinsdi'ahl.
ahnuu (iin) sdi'ahl. (qa-)
daxuush k'ee shuw (ggi- da-shuw) da'al qaataa' k'ee' shuw wakh sikha' [i]leh,
dlaggaxuu ggallaggaataakh.
[ts'] itiwakh awaa atq' daaxdadzaants' daakh k'udzuu sidaggalee siyaa q'e' dateek'.
aandakh, awleht q'aw al anh, q'i' atk'udadzaants', yahh axdaak'.
a'x'q'ee'h', awch' ixiyah (d-).
dlaggaxuu [q']aw, dlaggaxuukih aanda[kh] luudii'dakhyuu ya[kh] axdaa[k'].
ts'itwakh keenkh sikha' leef[k'].
tsaadilina'q' yaan' axdaak'.
ts'itfuw'ahkyuu liyaq q'alahggayuu, liyaq q'alahggayuu,
dali'q' loggada'aalinuu.
ts'itwakh dakhk'nuushduu uut liyaq daat.
liyaq ch'aht adiililah, ahnuudik daqiihah ggale'.
k'aadidh ulah uuch' q'e' iini'ee'.
sitinhggayuudik sikha' iinsdi'ahl. (sitinhgga-)
sitinhggayuu sikha' lisli'ahlch'ah q'al ahnuu si'ahtggyayuu q'uh yaan'q'e' disliqshq,
al iisinh.
aan, deilehtdal dlaggaxuu, ts'it dlaggaxuu atxslilah.
atggaxlalaal.*

Band 1 (2:32)

The Sun Comes Out (2:32)

Written by Bob Sylvester, Juneau.
Sung by Jack Cannon, guitar, Juneau.

We found these lyrics under an empty McNaughton's bottle in the barracks of Fort William Henry Seward. The handwriting we traced to Robert Sylvester, one of the reporters working that fall at the Chilkat Press in Port Chilkoot. Originally sung to the Scottish Border Ballad, "Bonnie George Campbell", Jack Cannon took a fancy to it three years later, added a chorus and tacked on a new melody.

Band 2 (2:06)

Southeast Weather Song

*South wind's rain and west wind's clearing,
Cold old northwest winds the fog brings in.*

Ward Eldridge, Juneau/Elfin Cove. (0:10)

Kathy Hazard, a whale researcher, asked Ward Eldridge, a commercial fisher, if he could fit Southeast Alaska weather conditions to the wind like what Gordon Bok had done for the Gulf of Maine. So, Ward did. Soon after, Ward sold his salmon vessel and drove to Florida. There he's refitting the gaff schooner "Idler", the oldest documented yacht on the East Coast (1888), to bring back to Southeast to bottom-fish.

The Sun Comes Out

*The sun comes out ten minutes a week,
This is no place for the frail or the meek;
There are wolves and bears and businessmen, too,
The former won't hurt you, but the latter sure do!*

Chorus:

*And you say no, no, hey, hey,
There must be some reason that I came and I stayed;
Too early for the oil and too late for the gold,
But you can't judge a book by the cover, oh,
No you cannot judge a book by the cover, oh.*

*Well, the wind and the snows will chill to the toes,
The outrageous bills will bring deeper woes;
The oil and the garbage and the lights and the water,
Will come to so much you have to sell your own daughter.*

Chorus:

*Well, the cost of it all will cause you to wonder,
Why not be a pirate and live off the plunder?
So, buy you a business, raise price to the rafter,
You can claim it's the transport, that "This is Alaska".*

Coda:

*Spit on the poor and live ever after,
You can claim it's the transport, that "This is Alaska."*

Chorus:



Jack Cannon

Bottomfish Come All Ye (1:55)

Written by Kris Krestensen, Juneau/Elfin Cove

Sung by Mark Wittow, Juneau/Homer and Bev Rawson, Douglas/Hoktaheen.

This was the product of "anger and alcohol" as Kris sat at our kitchen table one flat broke and soaking wet winter day just before the eviction. Kris is a handsome lad, considering he is an ex-prize-fighter, a walking encyclopedia of knots, and has worked a time rigging ships for 20th Century Fox.

*Tis advertised in Hoonah, in Oslo and Tokyo,
Ten thousand brave Alaskans a-bottom fishing go,"*

*Singing blow ye winds in the morning and blow ye winds, hi-ho!
Clear away your running gear and blow, boys, blow!*

*You go down to the banker's place to get a little loan,
Say you'll get ten thousand tons before the season's out.*

*The banker lives in a big fine house that's always dry and warm,
Too bad he can't be out to sea, freezin' in a storm.*

*Don't think about your homes, my boys, or for your sweethearts hanker,
Just freeze to death way out here, making money for the banker.*

*From Adak to Zarembo and all the points between,
We'll drag the bottom with our nets and sweep the ocean clean.*

*If the season's bad, my boys, and we can't pay the bill,
The banker, like a landshark, will close in for the kill.*

*Marry a banker's daughter, son, don't ever go to sea;
You can do to her, my boy, what her father did to me.*

Photo by Nancy Rainer



Kris Krestensen

Band 3 (3:43)

Ketchikan (3:42)

Cris Kennedy and Eric Michaels, guitar, Whale Bay.

We met Chris and Eric while they played at the legendary Crystal Saloon and Ballroom in Juneau. Later we met them in Petersburg, Lynn Canal and Wrangell . . . we still get cards from them in Mexico City, Denali Park and Detroit.

Ketchikan

*A walk in the past,
Through weathered old doors,
Relying on rusty old hinges;
To a smoky saloon,
Where a young logger swoons
O'er a barmaid in satin and fringes.*

*Then over the din
And clinking of glass,
A fisherman signals a waiter
To set up a round,
We're toasting the town,
And we'll we drink to each other later.*

*Chorus:
And young lovers romance,
While the northern lights dance,
And the sky never touches down;
She lives on the land,
And belongs to the sea,
This foggy old Ketchikan town.*

*Then out in the streets
The rivers of rain
Are cascading down the gutters;
And the clarion call,
Of an October squall,
Is the slamming of gates and shutters.*

*And at the Union Hotel,
With its sourdough smell,
The occupants change like the weather;
And when the sun shines down
She lights up the town;
Makes a stranger want to stay forever.*

Chorus.

*And north up the coast,
Asleep in the pines,
The dreams of the Tlingit lie fallow;
And totems remind us
Of the days far behind us
While the fog settles thick and sallow.*

*Then back in the town,
The nite closes in,
And trollers return from fishing;
And the moon's icy stare
Brings a chill to the air
When the lights of the harbor glisten.*

Chorus.

Band 4 (4:45)

The Lament of the Lonesome Wolf (2:05) Gooch xa.sheeyee

Yaan Yaan eesh (Olaf Abraham), Yakutat/Antlein.

Olaf Abraham composed the Lament of the Lonesome Wolf in 1939 in honor of his wife Jinnaa.tlaa (Suzie Bremner Abraham). Every winter he left her to go trapping for many months. And every time he left she cried.

*Cries of sorrow I hear from you;
Cries from the child of Kog waan taan.
Cries cannot bring back your loved one
From the Wolf Clan,
Oh, Child of Kog waan taan.*

*Why are you feeling such sorrow,
Oh, Child of Kog waan taan?
Do you not know,
because of loneliness for you,
This Wolf Clan cries in sorrow.*

*This wolf cries,
This wolf cries,
This wolf cries.*



Rainforest Reel (2:39)

Assembled by Bob Banghart, Douglas Island and Dan Hopson, Juneau.
Played by the Chicken Ridge Rowdies, Juneau, 1976.

Bob and Dan recollected a tune they heard once called the "Utah Trails March". They also knew a colorful fragment or two from "The Boys of Wexford". This patchwork they called "The Mad Muffin Mountain Rangers". Their fellow band-members then twisted the whole concoction into something resembling a sub-Arctic Rainforest; hence the present title.



Band 5 (0:55)

Nip/Tuck (0:55)

Written by Governor Jay Hammond, Juneau.

Arranged and sung by Jay Hammond and John Jamieson, guitar, Juneau.

Our governor won his first election by the narrowest margin in Alaskan history and then won his second election by the greatest landslide in our history. However, in the last Republican Primary, Jay Hammond and Wally Hickel tied. Jay went on a hunting trip. When he returned, he found himself 39 votes ahead. He was heard to remark, "Guess I'd better go out for another moose!" This song tells the story with Jameo backing the Governor all the way on guitar.

*Now, the crucial point in all campaigns
Is the moment when one "peaks";
And every candidate's objective,
Which he diligently seeks,
Is to do so on election day,
And not one day before or after:
For if you miss that target date
You'll win naught but caustic laughter.
To "peak" one should climb a mountain,
But nothing's quite that simple;
We labor long and work like mad,
But instead of peaking we just pimple.*

*Yes, thirty-seven grains of sand don't pile very high,
but all it takes is one of them to beat the other guy.
So, my thanks to all of you "sand persons",
Who piled each and every grain,
Then luged my carcass up to the top;
Without you I'd've gone down the drain.*

Photo by Jackie Lerner



Jay Hammond John Jamieson

Band 6 (2:55)

Ballad of the White Pass and Yukon Route (1:45)

Written by Tim Morrissey, Skagway.

Sung by Steve Hites, guitar, Skagway.

Tim Morrissey worked as a customs agent in Skagway a few years ago. We ran into him at the Red Dog several months ago, but he could not remember having written this song. Fortunately, Steve remembered how it went. Thank God for the oral tradition.

Ballad of the Yukon and White Pass Route

*From out of the Yukon Country, o'er the White Pass Trail,
Y' see the green and yellow, riding the crooked rail;
They're screamin' down thru Utah, past Carcross and the Lake,
And maybe they'll make Bennett, if the engineer's awake.*

*And then they leave Lake Bennett, and it's U.S. all the way,
Past Fraser, then at Glacier you're lookin' at Lind Bay;
But they don't see the derail that's blockin' up the line,
And just 'cause cars are on the ground, it's only overtime.*

*Old 101 by Clifton, just listen to that sound,
And they dump the air in Skagway, 'cause the whole thing's on the ground;
Well, Number 2's a little late, which means she's right on time,
And if the cars stay on the rail, she might be in by 9.*

*Old Hisman's in a motor car that Hammy just b.o.'d,
'Cause the windshield wiper 're leavin' streaks and he can't see the road.
Well, the baggage boys are loadin' freight, which makes the Union frown;
But the Company says, 'We got good men—it's hard to keep them down.'*

*Well, now you've heard my story all about the White Pass;
They're hauling freight and passengers and wastin' lots of gas.
My story has no moral, and certainly no rhyme,
But quite unlike the White Pass Route, it's runnin' right on time.*

Courtesy of Alaska State Historical Library

Band 7 (4:52)

Busted in Alaska (2:10)

Banjo Jim Erkiletian, banjo, Whitehorse.

Banjo Jim dodged from Missouri to Canada when the draft got his number during Vietnam. He ended up in Whitehorse, settled and raised a family. Years after the draft ended and before it started up again, customs agents arrested him crossing the border at Tok Junction while helping a friend move furniture. He wrote this story in an Anchorage jail cell.

*Drove up to Alaska, drivin' a panel truck,
Up the icy Alcan, trustin' guts and luck;
I was busted at the border
By a guy that said he'd break my knees:
Howard the Duck, you got nothin' on me.*

*Took me to a courtroom; I said, 'Whatchya gonna do to me?'
—Put you in the jailhouse and throw away the key!
I said, 'How y' gonna tell all the people what's going down?
Give me a lawyer and a newsman—I'll turn this courtroom 'round!'*

*The lawyers and the newsmen thought the case deserved some play,
They got me on the airwaves and I got to have my say;
Now the people can decide if what I did was right or wrong,
And I can go on playing and writin' and singin' my songs.*

*Gonna keep on dancin' and dreamin' of a time,
When we will all be free to decide what is a crime,
When we will all be fighting to put a final end to war;
We're not a soldier nation, but we're warriors to the very core.*

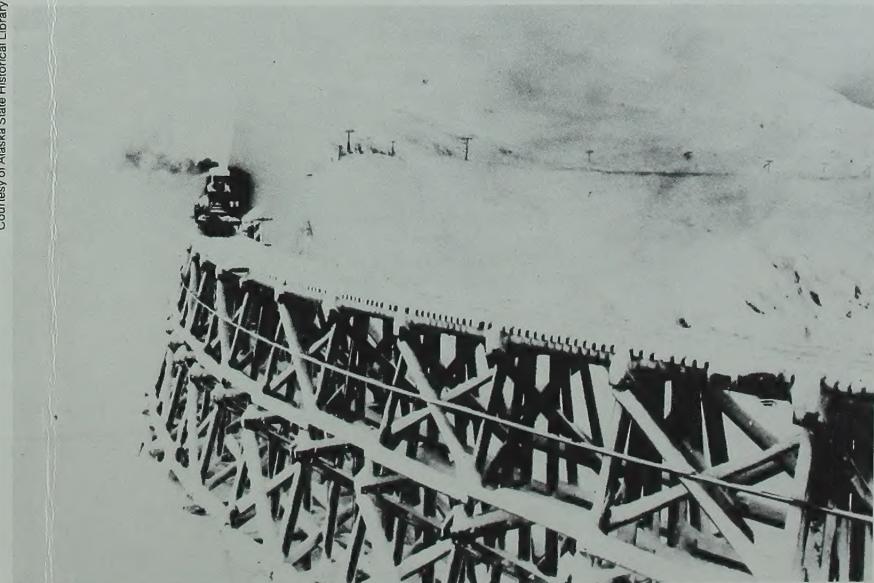
Conversation with Lonesome Pete (0:22)

Technology (2:20)

Bev Rawson, guitar, Pelican

The topic of this song originally centered on the Pelican fish house and Rosie's Bar. This winter brought Iran and Afghanistan. Bev survived the shootout between Canadian and Alaskan longliners last June by being in Huktaheen . . . and the topics of the song grew.

The White Pass, winter 1944-45



Tech-nol-o-gy

The energy crunch is upon us,
Iran don't give a damn;
For all that we've done you'd think they'd give us some;
If they get the cards they could have a grand slam.

And now the big search is on for more oil,
The Gulf of Alaska's the plan.
Yakutat's first, it can only get worse,
The shit's in the process of hitting the fan.

Chorus:
So, get out of the way here comes progress.
Only believe what you read.
Highways are fun just so's I'm not the one.
We're in the hands of a monster called tech-nol-o-gy.

In August they closed west of Spencer,
You don't get nothin' for free;
Next year there seem to be even more schemes,
To safeguard the salmon and our fishery.

But appearances are often deceiving,
We're just in the way don't you see;
How can they drill when waters are filled up,
With old wooden boats and related debris.

Chorus.

Coda:
Well Fish and Game's just a pawn for what's going on
We're in the hands of a monster called tech-nol-o-gy.



Bev Rawson

Photo by Ira Rose

The Tlingit Market

I'm from the Tlingit market
Did someone say the Aztecs came here by boat when the ice
melted?

Here so long
We got beaches
We got tides
We got rain
We got water
Here so long
We had gold, it slipped, someone shipped it away
Lost
We got tourists
We got hotels
We got recreation
Give me a tour
We got leisure
We got trees
We chop wood
We carve wood
We burn it
We got poles
We got clans
We got old living
Here so long
We got spirit
Look me in the eye when I talk and you'll remember what I say

Andrew Hope III

Band 8 (2:35)

This Wonderful Land (2:35)

Written by Wesley Lewis, Three Way Pass/Wrangell.
Arranged and sung by Hobo Dan Neff, guitar, Harris Harbor/Elfin Cove.

Our songbook came out in June 1979 — in September a package arrived thru five forwarded addresses.. It contained about 10 songs scratched in pencil on damp paper. These songs and poems Wesley composed and sang to his dog at the oyster farm he tends at Three Way Pass outside of Wrangell. Hobo Dan took a shine to this poem and set it to music aboard his troller the "Hobo".

THIS WONDERFUL LAND

This wonderful land, to the last
grain of sand,
Is beautiful to see; I keep it in my
memory.
These wonderful hills, where we used
to find stills.
And when you are hungry, there's a
deer to kill.

It makes you, it takes you or it
breaks you.
This wonderful land, this wonderful
land.

This wonderful water, where we see
live otter.
And fish by the school in the water
blue;
Bears in the crick and they look
real slick.
A big trout or two being caught
by you;

It makes you, it takes you or it
breaks you.
This wonderful land, this wonderful
land

This wonderful beach, where the wild
mink screech,
An eagle or two flying up in the blue;
A lonely wolf walks along the shore,
He's already eaten and he's lookin'
for more;

It makes you, it takes you or it
breaks you.
This wonderful land, this wonderful
land.

These wonderful trees, that sing in
the breeze,
Are slowly dying because we are
crying:
For progress we stand while we tear
up the land.
May it last forever, this wonderful
land;

It makes you, it takes you or it
breaks you.
This wonderful land, this wonderful
land.

The Boys of the Crystal Saloon, 1977



11

The Southeast Alaska Folk Tradition 1942-1981

Collected, arranged and produced by:

Barry Roderick & John Ingalls

In cooperation with:

KTOO-FM, Juneau

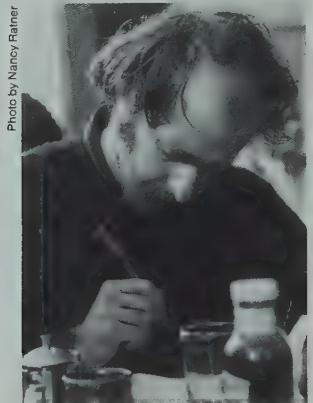
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Barry Roderick



John Ingalls



Patti Hauke



Byron Mallot

Cover photo by: Vincent Soboleff

This great local photographer was the son of Ivan Soboleff who moved from San Francisco in the 1890's to serve the Russian Orthodox Church in Killisnoo. Vincent Soboleff operated the Kootznaah Store in Angoon until his death in 1950. Several hundred glass plate negatives were discovered in his attic and donated to the Alaska State Historical Library by his sister, Vera Soboleff Bayers. A great contribution to our community.

UNSUNG HEROES

Ruth Allman, Juneau
Thelma Bucholt, Anchorage
Marcia Carr, Skagway
Sol Casidid, Juneau
Al Eagle, Juneau
Andrew Hope, III Sitka
Bill Hudson, Juneau
Asia Ingalls, Whale Bay
Robert Johnson, Sitka
Bob Jamey and Josh Chevalier, Sitka
Michael Krauss, Fairbanks
John Larson, Juneau
Peter Metcalfe, Juneau
Anne Moore, Juneau
Madona Moss, Juneau
Cy Peck, Sr, Angoon
Cy Peck, Jr, Juneau
Roger Poppe, Juneau
Judy Ramos, Anchorage
Molly Smith, Douglas
Ed Schoenfeldt, Juneau
Ross Soboleff, Juneau
Mike & Shar Stark, Juneau
Bob Sylvester, Juneau
Bruce Theriault, Ketchikan

SPECIAL CREDITS

Jan Adkins, Whale Bay, Layout & Design
Skip Gray, Juneau, Historical photo printing
Patti Hauke, Juneau, Typesetting & drawing
Ron Klein, Juneau, Historical photo printing
Ken Melville, Juneau, Typesetting

PLACES

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KRBD, Ketchikan
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Special thanks for changing this project from a dream into a reality.



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Byron Mallot, Chairman of the Board
Ross Soboleff, Public Relations Director

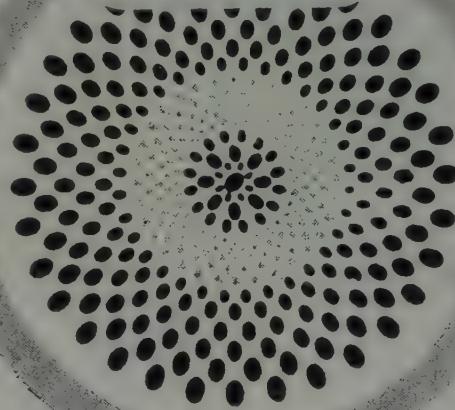


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SOUTHEAST ALASKA FOLK
TRADITION

Compiled and Edited by:
Barry Roderick & John Ingalls,
Archipelago, Box 748,
Douglas, Alaska 99824

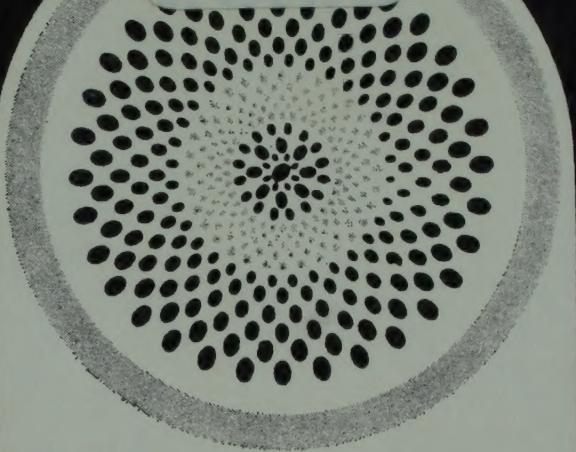
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UNITED

FOLKWAYS CASSETTE

45970



SOUTHEAST ALASKA FOLK TRADITION

Compiled and Edited by:
Barry Roderick & John Ingalls,
Archipelago, Box 748,
Douglas, Alaska 99824

FES 34033A/B

FOLKWAYS
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SOUTHEAST ALASKA FOLK TRADITION - "TOO LATE FOR THE GOLD"

1. (5:05) THE BASKET BAY BLOWDOWN BLUES/SOMETIMES 2. (2:19) LICENSE SONG 3. (7:03) BILLY BIGGS CONVERSATION/RUM RUNNERS OF SOUTHEAST/ BILLY BIGGS CONVERSATION/THREE FOR A DOLLAR BLUES 4. (2:37) BILLY BIGGS CONVERSATION/ANNIE FAIR 5. (6:32) TALES OF THE RAVEN/LAMENT FOR THE EYAK

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SOUTHEAST ALASKA FOLK TRADITION - "TOO EARLY FOR THE OIL"
1. (2:32) THE SUN COMES OUT 2. (2:06) SOUTHEAST WEATHER SONG/BOTTOM-FISH COME ALL YE 3. (3:43) KETCHIKAN 4. (4:45) THE LAMENT OF THE LONESOME WOLF/RAINFOREST REEL 5. (0:55) NIP & TUCK 6. (1:45) BALLAD OF THE WHITE PASS AND YUKON ROUTE 7. (4:52) BUSTED IN ALASKA/CONVERSATION WITH LONESOME PETE/TECHNOLOGY 8. (2:35) THIS WONDERFUL LAND

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